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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*Enter this amendment: gmm 12-27-05*

In re patent application of:	)
Hathaway	) Before the Examiner
Serial No. 10/008,781	) Woo, Julian W.
Filed November 13, 2001	)
	) Group Art Unit
	) 3731
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR	)
POSITIVE CLOSURE OF AN	)
INTERNAL TISSUE MEMBRANE	)
OPENING	)

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2005, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments and consideration of the accompanying remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this transmittal.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this transmittal.

Additionally, please provide any extensions of time that may be necessary and charge any fees that may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but do not include any payment of issue fees that are or may become due.

I certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Gail Mercer

Typed or Printed Name of Person Transmitting Correspondence

*Gail Mercer*

Signature of Person Transmitting Correspondence

December 27, 2005

Date of Signature

Hathaway, USSN 10/008,781  
RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION  
7037-438.Q.280158v2

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01 FC:1202  
02 FC:1201

50.00 OP  
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Atty. Docket 7037-438